



Clermont County, Ohio

Clermont Today

September 2012 Citizen Newsletter

Commissioners Bob Proud, Ed Humphrey, and David Uible

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**Labor Day is Monday,
September 3 2012 -
Clermont County
government offices will be
closed**

**Check out
Clermont County online!**

www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov



Strut Your Mutt Promises to be a Tail Waggin' Good Time!

If you have a dog that likes to dress up in costume (or not), can dance, smile, bark on command, or do any other impressive trick, or if you just love dogs, you will want to come to the second annual **Strut Your Mutt** event! Tri-State CART (County Animal Response Team) invites you and your four-legged friends to **Strut Your Mutt** on Sunday, September 23, 2012 on Front Street in New Richmond; the **Strut** will run from noon through 6 p.m. "The **Strut** is a fun day of activities for all members of the family, especially for your dogs and your kids," said Tri-State CART Executive Director and Co-founder Bonnie Morrison.

There will be pet parade down Front Street at 2 p.m.; any pet is invited to take part – dogs, cats, rabbits, miniature ponies – as long as your pet is on a non-retractable leash. Other event highlights include live music, vendors, raffles, Canine Good Citizen testing, and all types of demonstrations, including dog agility. Various local rescue groups will be in attendance, some with dogs and cats available for adoption. One of the most popular attractions at last years' **Strut** was the pet communicator, who will be back again this year. The Clermont County Sheriff's Office K-9 unit will also be giving a demonstration with some of their police dogs.



"Last year, we had a hot dog eating contest for kids, which was so much fun to watch," said Morrison. "This year, we're adding a hot dog eating contest for adults as well! And of course, this is **Strut Your Mutt**, so the hot dogs have to be eaten from dog dishes!"

Tri-State CART, in conjunction with the Clermont Emergency Management Agency, is part of Clermont County

Citizen Corps, a non-profit disaster response team that focuses on the care of animals during times of disaster. Last years' **Strut Your Mutt** event proceeds allowed CART to

purchase a mobile disaster vehicle, which will be invaluable during actual emergencies. "The vehicle is outfitted with crates, an area for administering medical care to the animals, a grooming area – everything we need to provide the best care possible," said Morrison. There is no cost to attend **Strut Your Mutt**; for more information about Tri-State CART or **Strut Your Mutt**, visit the website www.TriStateCART.com, or call 702-8373.



Mobile Disaster Vehicle

Click here to watch a video about Tri-State CART and Strut Your Mutt:
<http://www.clermontcountyohio.gov/video0812CART.aspx>

The USDA Encourages the Public to Report ALB Sightings

The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) asks the public to be on the lookout for the Asian Long-horned Beetle (ALB)! Since the spread of ALB to Stonelick Township from the Bethel area, APHIS encourages citizens to become familiar with the signs ALB could be present in trees on your property.



try to capture it in a jar and place it in the freezer to preserve the insect for APHIS staff to determine if it is actually an ALB.

Another way to prevent ALB from spreading to other parts of the county and state, remember that the quarantine restricting the movement of firewood from infested areas is still in place. Hardwood

logs, firewood, stumps, roots, and branches are not to be removed from the regulated area. All of Tate Township, and parts of Monroe and Stonelick Townships are still under quarantine.

Adult beetles are most active during the summer and early fall, making September one of the peak times for emergence of this invasive pest. They can be seen on trees, branches, walls, outdoor furniture, cars, sidewalks, or even caught in pool filters. The ALB has unique characteristics, making it easy to identify.

The ALB is 1 to 1 1/2 inches in length, has long antennae with black and white bands (the antennae are longer than the beetle's body), has a shiny jet black body with random white spots, and six legs that may appear blue in color.

In addition to identifying the ALB, it is important to recognize signs ALB might be present on your property. Infested trees may have dime-sized, perfectly round exits holes in the trunk or branches, and oval depressions on the bark where the eggs are laid. You may also find sawdust-like material, called frass, on the ground and branches, and find sap seeping from wounds in the tree.



Pictured here are the dime-sized, perfectly round holes in the tree trunk, a sign of ALB

The best way to prevent further infestation is to report signs of ALB immediately. If you find a beetle,

The ALB is an invasive insect from Asia that came to the U.S. concealed in solid wood packing material used to transport goods overseas. ALB was first detected in Clermont County in June 2011.

If you think you see signs of ALB in the trees on your property, or see an insect that you believe may be ALB, please call the local ALB Cooperative Program at 831-7180, or the USDA at 1-866-702-9938. Visit the website www.Beele-Busters.info for more information about ALB.

Clermont Commissioners September Sessions

Wednesday, September 5	3 p.m.
Wednesday, September 12	10 a.m.
Monday, Sept. 17 (Informal)	10 a.m.
Wednesday, September 19	10 a.m.
Monday, Sept. 24 (Informal)	10 a.m.
Wednesday, September 26	10 a.m.

Watch Commissioner sessions online at:
www.clermontcountyohio.gov; ***click on Video Library.***

For more information about the Board of Clermont County Commissioners, call 732-7300

Clermont is a Caring County

Clermont County is full of generous, caring people who enjoy helping others by volunteering at one of many great local organizations. If you have thought about volunteering, but have never taken the steps to find out where to go or what to do, some of the following are ways you can volunteer to help out a fellow Clermont County citizen (two or four-legged)!

Clermont County Humane Society: If helping animals is your thing, the Humane Society can use two different categories of volunteers. The first category is for dog-walking and dog and cat socializing at the shelter, or helping with the satellite adoption events two Saturdays a month at the Eastgate PetSmart store. The second category is for the annual dinner and auction; volunteers are needed before and during the event. To find



out more, visit the website www.clermontcountyanimalshelter.com/volunteer.html.

Clermont County Senior Services: If you enjoy helping seniors in your community, you can volunteer with Senior Services. Some of the types of things volunteers can assist with are delivering meals, shopping or running other errands, cleaning, painting, or helping out at the Senior Services office. For more information, visit the



website www.clermontseniors.com/volunteer.html.

Clermont County Park District: If you love nature and the outdoors, the Park District would

love to have you volunteer! Volunteers are needed at the Chilo Lock #34 Visitor Center to greet visitors, answer questions,



and interpret displays. The Park District may also have volunteer projects available that meet service requirements for particular groups, such as Boy Scouts or 4-H clubs. To learn more, visit the website www.clermontparks.org.

Clermont County Citizen Corps: If you would like to be able to provide assistance when severe weather or other emergencies occur in the county, you might want to sign up for the Citizen Corps. Volunteers help during emergencies in a variety of ways, from being part of the Tristate Medical Reserve Corps to the neighborhood watch program. All volunteers must register first at the state level at the website www.ohioresponds.gov.

Clermont County Foster Care: If you love children, and have room in your home and heart, consider one of the most important ways you can volunteer – become a foster parent! Foster homes are needed within the county, to prevent children in custody from being placed in homes away from their familiar surroundings. To find out more information, visit the website www.clermontforkids.org.



Interested in becoming a foster parent?

Clermont County Children's Protective Services (CPS) will be providing free Foster and Respite Care Training for anyone interested in becoming a foster parent at the SonRise Church, located at 8136 Wooster Pike, Cincinnati, 45227. The classes will run for 12 weeks, beginning Saturday, September 8 through Saturday, November 24, 2012 from 9 a.m. until noon.

The classes are free, and there is no obligation. Anyone interested may sit in on one or more sessions to learn about the children in need and see if you might be able to help.



Members of the Vulnerable Children's Ministry (VCM), an outreach ministry with SonRise church is dedicated to providing the congregation and community with information and support to those who are interested in becoming foster or adoptive parents, will be providing a light brunch and childcare for those who attend the training classes.

Registration is required; visit the website www.sonrise-church.com, and click on Events, Foster Care Training, and fill out the registration form. You may also register by calling Cindy Thomas at 543-5923 or Dale Thomas at 543-9008.

Ohio Statehouse Hosts Special Political Memorabilia Exhibit



The Ohio Statehouse Museum Education Center, in partnership with American Political Items Collectors, unveiled a new exhibit showcasing treasures from the political careers of

Ohio's eight Presidents and their campaigns.

While the campaign button is the most widely recognized and collected of all campaign objects, the exhibit also includes vintage political ribbons, ferro-types, glassware, autographs, books, textiles, ephemera, posters, medals, tokens, postcards, pennants, sheet music, and photographs. Campaign artifacts range from matchbooks to street banners and everything in between!

Presidents from Ohio are: William Henry Harrison, Ulysses Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, William Howard Taft, and Warren G. Harding.

All of the items displayed at the Statehouse are from the private collection of Mark and Kim Gelke of Cincinnati.

The exhibit is on display in the Map Room on the ground level of the Ohio Statehouse through September 27, 2012. The exhibit is free and open to the public. For more information, visit the website www.ohiostatehouse.org.



Clermont County Welcomes New Assistant County Administrator

On July 24, 2012, the Board of Clermont County Commissioners approved the hiring of new assistant county administrator, Thomas Eigel. Before becoming assistant county administrator, Eigel worked in local government for nearly 17 years, in both Ohio and Kentucky. "My prior government experiences have exposed me to many different aspects of government operations," said Eigel. "I recently worked in quality assurance for a non-profit agency, including leading an alternative high school program for two years."

Eigel's primary goal as Assistant County Administrator are to assist County Administrator, Steve Rabolt, the Commissioners, and department heads with increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of county operations through project management and support.

Eigel, originally from Blue Ash, finds Clermont County appealing because of its good mix of land use. "One can easily access all the products and services they need, and still be able to see some of the most beautiful farm and park land in the region," he said.

In his spare time, Eigel enjoys spending time with his wife and two children, watching the kids' sporting events, playing golf, and camping at East Fork Lake.



Assistant County Administrator Tom Eigel



Commissioner Ed Humphrey and Tom Eigel at a recent BCC session

League of Women Voters Celebrates 92 Years!

The League of Women Voters (LWV) celebrated their 92nd anniversary on August 26, 2012 – the 92nd anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, which gave women full voting rights. The LWV of Clermont County is a non-partisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public



policy through education and advocacy. The LWV is a grassroots organization with national, state, and local divisions which parallel the levels.

For more information about the League of Women Voters of Clermont County, visit the website www.lwvclermont.com/index.html.

Flu Shots Offered at Drive-Thru Clinic

The Clermont County General Health District is offering seasonal flu shots at a drive-thru clinic on Saturday, September 29, 2012 from 9 a.m. through 10:30 a.m. at New Richmond High School, located at 1131 Bethel-New Richmond Rd., New Richmond. Because this is a drive-thru clinic, participants will stay in their vehicles through the entire process; they should wear clothing that allows easy access to the upper arm to receive the vaccination.

This will be the last opportunity to receive a flu shot for \$15 from the General Health District. Due to the rising cost of vaccines and supplies, the Health District will increase fees to \$20 starting October 1, 2012. Checks, Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance will **NOT** be accepted at the drive-thru clinic and no appointments are needed. Those on Medicare, Medicaid, or not comfortable with the drive-thru clinic may schedule an appointment to receive a flu shot at the Clermont County General Health District Nursing Division by calling 735-8400.



“The drive-thru flu clinic allows individuals to receive a flu shot without getting out of their vehicles. This is a valuable service to the public, especially for those with disabilities or other issues which prevent them from visiting a walk-

in clinic, doctor’s office, or pharmacy,” said Clermont County Assistant Health Commissioner Julianne Nesbit. “Getting a flu shot is the best way to protect yourself, your family, and others from seasonal flu.” The Centers for Disease Control recommends that everyone six months and older should get a seasonal flu shot, especially those at

high risk for developing complications from the flu.

For more information about the flu or if you would like to fill out your vaccination form in advance online, visit the website

www.clermonthhealthdistrict.org or call the Clermont County Flu Hotline, at 588-5121.

Clermont Senior Services to Host Touching the Hearts Gala and Auction

The United States Polo Association (USPA) has partnered with Clermont County Senior Services to present the first annual *Congressional Cup Royal in Red Senior Services Charity Event* on Friday, September 7 and Saturday, September 8, 2012. This two-day event will kick off at the Peterloon Estate in Indian Hill, where Clermont Senior Services will host the *Touching the Hearts Gala and Auction*. The Congressional Polo Cup finals will be held on Saturday at Miami Meadows in Miami Township.

The Congressional Polo Cup finals is a match between both professional and amateur polo players from across the state. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to meet the polo players, take photos,

and get autographs. The polo match will be complete with the traditional stomping of the divots!

For over 40 years, Clermont Senior Services has been providing and coordinating in-home and community based services for seniors in the county, which enable them to live more independent lives. The majority of seniors served are over the age 70, low income, live alone, and have limited or no family support.

For more information about the weekend event, visit the website

www.clermontseniors.com/polo.html.

Back to School Tips for Parents

It's September, which means most students are back in school! Settling into a new school year can feel overwhelming for both parents and students with new schedules, supplies to buy, and tons of information being disseminated back and forth between school and home and back to school again. No matter if your children are just starting kindergarten or high school, getting organized at home is a great way to help transition into a new school year.



One way is to keep a calendar visible – on the refrigerator, next to the telephone, or on a bulletin board. It is important for both you AND your child to keep track of events and activities. Make sure you write down school activities, when forms are due, and even when your child's homework assignments are due. Don't forget to write down extra-curricular activities too, such as sports practices, games, or music lessons.

Check your child's backpack frequently to check for crucial information being sent home from school with students. Many children will stuff the notes into their backpack and forget all about it. Especially with younger students, going through her backpack each evening will not only help remind her to give you important notes being sent home from school, you will be able to help her organize her homework assignments and make sure the school work is getting finished.

Many schools now use technology to keep parents up-to-date – make sure you utilize the school's website to stay informed of upcoming events, parent-teacher conferences, and even your child's

grades. Even if you aren't computer-savvy, learning how to access the school's online tools will help your student by allowing you to monitor homework assignments and grades.

No matter what your child's age, make sure she knows who to call if something goes wrong at school, at home, or anywhere in between. Always make your child aware of your emergency contact information, and have a back-up plan in place. If school lets out early due to bad weather, and you are unable to pick her up, have a trusted relative or friend lined up in advance.

Staying involved with your child's education is a great way to ensure she'll be successful!

Go to parent-teacher conferences, network with other parents by joining the parent-teacher organization, volunteer in your child's classroom, and never be afraid to ask for extra help.



Remember, by keeping yourself involved and organized, it will help keep your student involved and organized! For more information, visit the Ohio Department of Education

website at www.ode.state.oh.us.

Candlelight Vigil Planned for Those Lost to Suicide

On Thursday, September 20, 2012, the Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board (MHRB), the Clermont County Suicide Prevention Coalition, and Mental Health America of Southwest Ohio invites those who have been touched by suicide to attend a candlelight vigil to remember, honor, and cherish the lives of those lost to suicide in Clermont County. The vigil will begin at 7 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Park in Union Township, and will include the ceremonial lighting of candles and a balloon release.



Five million Americans have lost a close family member or friend to suicide, and the Coalition's candlelight vigil will help create awareness, and allow those who have lost a loved to suicide have the opportunity to come together, grieve and heal. "There is such a stigma surrounding suicide that those left behind often suffer in silence," said MHRB Associate Director Dr. Lee Ann Watson.

For more information, email Dr. Watson at lwatson@ccmhrb.org.

Clermont County Observes Patriot Day

The Board of Clermont County Commissioners, along with communities nationwide, has proclaimed September 11, 2012 as National Patriot Day, to remember and honor those who died in the terrorist attacks on America eleven years ago.



Nearly 3,000 people were killed when hijackers deliberately flew three planes into the Pentagon and the World Trade Center; a fourth plane crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. This was the

biggest act of terrorism ever on American soil.

The proclamation calls for Clermont County citizens to express their patriotism by flying the American flag at half-staff; there will be a national moment of silence observed at 8:46 a.m. on September 11, to honor the lives lost in 2001.

Inspired by the heroic sacrifices of firefighters, law enforcement, military personnel, and everyday citizens in the aftermath of that tragic day, our nation has found unity, focus, and strength!

Got Questions???



We've got answers! For information about Clermont County government agencies, departments, and offices, visit the website www.opi.clermontcountyohio.gov! You will find a complete listing of contact information for county offices, village and township offices, and links to the latest news and videos.

To receive county government information right on your Facebook news feed, go to www.Facebook.com/ClermontCounty and become a fan of Clermont County Government.

Don't forget to tell all your friends and family to sign up online to have this monthly e-newsletter emailed directly to their inboxes! Go to www.clermontcountyohio.gov/Newsletter.aspx to sign up.

Want to know what's going on in county government? Board of Clermont County Commissioners session videos are available online! Go to www.clermontcountyohio.gov/videos.aspx to watch on demand.



Clermont Park Events

By: Keith Robinson, Park District

Monarch Tagging

Saturday, September 15, 2 p.m. - Shor Park

Did you know that Monarch butterflies migrate thousands of miles each year? Join the naturalist to discover more about this fascinating flier as we search the fields for Monarchs and hopefully catch a few to tag before releasing them. Tagging Monarchs helps us track movement of these long distance migrants and gives scientists more information about their routes. Bring your own net, if you have one. Long pants are recommended, as we may be going off-trail in search of butterflies.



water. Pre-registration is required; call 732-7075 before September 17, 2012 to sign up. Participants must sign a waiver prior to the program. For safety reasons, please do not bring children under the age of 4.

Sycamore Park Stream Splash

Saturday, September 22, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. –

Sycamore Park

Grab a net and join us as we splash around in the river searching for aquatic insects and other critters. We'll use the bugs that we catch to determine how clean the water is. The program is ongoing, so drop in anytime between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Great Outdoor Weekend

East Fork Canoe Adventure

Saturday, September 22,

Sycamore Park

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. or 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Enjoy a naturalist guided canoe adventure down the East Fork of the Little Miami River as you search for beaver, wood ducks, turtles, and other aquatic wildlife. After the trip, grab a kick net and help us collect aquatic invertebrates to determine the water quality in the river. Participants will be given a brief safety demonstration before entering the

Preschool Storytime: Seeds

Wednesday, September 19, 1:30 p.m. – Sycamore Park

Join the park naturalist and a librarian from the Batavia Branch of the public library for our monthly storytime program. This month's topic will be seeds! Join us for a story, craft, and a hike in search of seeds. Pre-registration is required; call 876-9013 to sign up. The deadline to register is 4:30 p.m. on Monday, September 17.

Clermont Humane Society Satellite Adoption Events

The Clermont County Humane Society will be holding satellite pet adoptions at the Eastgate Petsmart store on the following dates in September:

Saturday, September 8, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 22, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

The satellite adoption events are a great opportunity to meet some of the great animals available for adoption at the Clermont Animal Shelter, and talk to trained shelter volunteers about pet adoption.

The Clermont Animal Shelter is located at 4025 Filager Road in Batavia, and is open Monday - Saturday, 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information, call 732-8854.





2275 Bauer Road Batavia, Ohio 45103 Phone: (513) 732-7213 www.permit.ClermontCountyOhio.gov

Fire Prevention: Brush Fires by Bruce Crase, Permit Central

Local fire departments in the United States respond to thousands brush and forest fires per year, according to the U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Incident Reporting System. This is why it's critical to take a few preventative safety steps to safeguard your home, business, and personal property from brush related fires.



Landscaping is a great way to limit exposure to possible brush fires. Simply by keeping bushes and hedges below three feet will avoid overgrowth that can catch fire.

Keeping tree canopies greater than eight feet will assist in avoiding a fire that starts on the surface from reaching branches and your residence. Additionally, trimming shrubs and trees can improve the security of your residence because there are fewer places for intruders to conceal themselves. You might also want to keep branches and other vegetation away from siding and the roof to avoid a fire from spreading to the home. The use of a non-combustible material (such as gravel) instead of organic mulch near edges can help prevent various structure related fires.

The use of fire-resistant siding, screened or ember-resistant vents, and attachments, such as fences, decks and porches, can help avoid brush fires from spreading to your residence. Also, roofs constructed of Class A asphalt shingles, metal, clay tile, or concrete products also significantly reduce the chance of a tree or shrub from igniting your home. Even though these materials will improve the fire-resistance of your home, their effec-

tiveness will slowly diminish if you don't occasionally inspect your roof for breaks or other gaps between tiles and clean out the gutter system for your residence.

Although this may seem like a lot of work, it should really be one of your main priorities because leaves and other debris that gets trapped in these places can easily start a fire. Keep flammable materials away, many brush fires are caused by smoky objects, such as cigarettes, on the ground. Smoking items should always be disposed of in a fire-resistant container. You should also stay away from using fire pits, chimneys, and other outdoor fireplaces near your residence.

If you plan to hold a camp fire make certain it is in a safe distance from your residence and call your local fire department to find out if you will need a burn permit. Another device that can cause brushfires is outdoor grills and other cooking apparatuses. Outdoor grills should



always be kept at least ten feet from any structures. When the grill is not being used, be sure the propane tanks have all their valves fully closed and kept in a cool location. Fireworks are also another high statistic behind brush fires.

Know that fire damaged structures do require building permits; always check with local village or township ordinances for any zoning regulations prior to performing any repairs. For projects that require permits the owner or owner's agent should first make application by calling Clermont County Permit Central at 732-7213; visit the website www.permit.clermontcountyohio.gov for more information.

Emergency Management Agency News, by Pam Broughton, EMA Director

All-Hazard Mitigation Plan

Clermont County is updating the All-Hazard Mitigation Plan as required by 44 CFR Part 201.3 and the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. Local jurisdictions are required to update the plan every five years in order to remain eligible for pre-disaster and post-disaster mitigation grant programs.

The purpose of All-Hazard Mitigation Planning is to:

- Identify the hazards that impact Clermont County, including the cities, villages, and townships within the county;
- Identify actions and activities to reduce any losses from those hazards; and
- Establish a coordinated process to implement the plan.

The benefits include:

- Assisting local communities with reducing risks by identifying vulnerabilities and developing strategies to lessen and/or eliminate the effects of a potential hazard;
- Building partnerships and reducing duplication of efforts among organizations with similar or overlapping goals;
- Creating more sustainable and disaster-resistant communities;
- Communicating needs to state and federal officials when funding becomes available, particularly after a disaster; and
- Increasing public awareness of local hazards and disaster preparedness.

We are very interested in community feedback. There are a variety of ways to participate in this process.

- Attend the public forum on October 3, 2012 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Clermont County Engineer's Office (2381 Clermont Center Drive, Batavia, Ohio 45103);
- Visit our website at ema.clermontcountyohio.gov/MitigationPlan.aspx; or
- Provide comments via e-mail to clermontema@clermontcountyohio.gov or phone at 732-7661.

National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month. This year's theme is *Pledge to Prepare - Awareness to Action* to encourage Americans to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, schools, organizations, businesses, and communities. We are encouraging the citizens and visitors of Clermont County to:

- Learn about the local hazards and the appropriate response;
- Make a communications plan;
- Build an emergency supply kit;
- Get involved in preparedness in the community.

For more information visit:

www.clermontcitizencorps.org or www.ready.gov



Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program

In light of the recent tornados and high wind events, Ohio Emergency Management Agency has launched the Ohio Safe Room Rebate Program. The Program provides a rebate to Ohio homeowners for the purchase and installation of safe rooms.

Homeowners that are selected for the program are eligible for a rebate of 87.5 percent of the cost to purchase, install and/or construct a safe room up to a maximum of \$6,000. The deadline to apply is October 1, 2012.

Safe rooms are defined as any above or below ground shelter which meet or exceed the requirements outlined in FEMA Publication 320 and/or 361.

Interested residents will apply directly to Ohio EMA at:

<https://ohiosharpp.ema.state.oh.us/ohiosaferoomrebate/>

Check out a new edition to the Clermont Today monthly newsletter - the Ohio Valley Long Term Recovery Committee Newsletter! View the LTRC newsletter on the next three pages...



Mission:

To assist the people of the Ohio Valley to recover from and restore their lives after any disaster in a timely manner.

Partners:

Adventist Community Services
All Saints Lutheran Church
American Red Cross
Brown County Department of Economic Development
Brown County EMA
Catholic Charities of South Western Ohio
Church of Scientology
Citizen Advocates
Clermont County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Clermont County Department of Community & Economic Development
Clermont County EMA
Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board
Clermont County Office of Public Information
Clermont County Permit Central/Building Inspection
Cranston Memorial Presbyterian
Episcopal Diocese of Southern Ohio
Federal Home Loan Bank
Grant Memorial United Methodist Church
Jackson Area Ministries
Lutheran Disaster Response
Matthew 25 Ministries
Ohio EMA
Ohio Governor John Kasich's Office
Ohio Senator Tom Niehaus
Ohio VOAD
Park National Bank
People Working Corporately
Presbyterian Churches
Representative Jean Schmidt's Office
River Valley Ecumenical Churches
Saint Vincent de Paul
Tri-State COAD
Tri-State Habitat for Humanity
Two Men and a Truck
United Church of Christ
United Methodist Churches
United Way of Greater Cincinnati
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development
U.S. Senator Rob Portman's Office
U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown's Office
Village of Moscow

LTRC Officers:

Chair: Jim Dinkel
Vice-Chair: Beth Nevel
Secretary: Pam Broughton
Treasurer: Kathy Coulson

Ohio Valley LTRC

ISSUE I

SEPTEMBER 2012

What is a Long Term Recovery Committee?

The LTRC is a cooperative body that is made up of representatives from faith-based, non-profit, government, business, and other organizations working within a community to assist individuals and families as they recover from a disaster. The goal of the LTRC is to unite recovery resources with the community need in order to ensure that even the most vulnerable in the community recover from the disaster.

The LTRC focuses on four mission areas: Disaster Case Management, Donations Management, Volunteer Management, and Spiritual and Emotional Support.

Disaster Case Management is a time-limited process by which a skilled helper (Disaster Case Manager) partners with a disaster affected individual or family (Client) to plan



Village of Moscow following the March 2, 2012 Tornado.

for and achieve realistic goals for recovery following a disaster.

Donations management provides a comprehensive process that organizes the giving, receiving and distribution of both solicited and unsolicited donated goods so that the maximum benefit is derived for the disaster survivors.

Volunteer Management is a key

component of disaster recovery. Since volunteers come with variety of skill sets, it is important to place volunteers in roles that fit their ability. Those skills and abilities may include but are not limited to: debris removal, cleaning out homes, repairing and rebuilding homes, case management, program leadership, office skills, as well as professional services such as legal advice, accounting and computer expertise.

Spiritual and Emotional Support are critical in times of disaster because people lose their sense of safety and security. Moments like these require spiritual and emotional care teams to provide comfort, hope and help. Disaster victims are often vulnerable and hurting and simply need a listening ear to bring relief to stresses brought on by loss.

For additional information on the Ohio Valley LTRC efforts, go to www.ema.clermontcountyohio.gov.

Are You Ready? Before and After the Disaster

Are you better prepared today than you were on March 2, 2012?

If the answer is no, come join us:

Tuesday, September 11, 2012

7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

River Valley Community Center

30 Wells Street

Moscow, Ohio 45153

Topics include:

- **GETTING THE MOST BANG FOR THE BUCK**
- **PURCHASING INSURANCE AND NEGOTIATING WITH ADJUSTERS**
- **CHOOSING A CONTRACTOR**
- **DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR THE FUTURE**

This event is sponsored by the Ohio Valley Long Term Recovery Committee.

All are welcome! Refreshments and door prizes will be provided.

A Partner's Message...



Catholic Charities of South Western Ohio and the St. Martin District Council of St. Vincent DePaul are proud to be a part of the restoration. We hope to ease the burdens of our neighbors in need by helping them to rebuild

their homes, their lives, and their spirits.

Both agencies are committed to ensuring that the people in Moscow and surrounding areas are reestablished to the position they were in before the tornado.

These organizations have a long history of assisting families in need. They have helped individuals and families rebuild their lives by providing rent and

utility assistance, trailer moving and payments, a furnace, and new appliances to those families with needs identified by the LTRC Case Manager.



"They've been tremendous to us...things are working their way out... thanks so much for your thoughtfulness ..."



Volunteer Accomplishments

In the Village of Moscow, we have had many volunteer groups working to rebuild Moscow. These groups have:

- Cleaned park and public areas of tree and storm debris;
- Replaced damaged shingles on the Park Picnic Shelter;
- Placed mulch on the plant beds throughout the park;
- Fed, watered, and edged the tree nursery;
- Constructed and painted the "Replant Moscow" Sign;
- Created park benches from fallen timbers;
- Removed damaged sidewalks and created frames for new sidewalks;
- Guttered homes to prepare for rebuilding;
- Reclaimed historical bricks from demolished homes; and
- Picked up trash and debris from farmland.

The volunteer efforts have been invaluable to the restoration of the Village of Moscow.

Replant Moscow: Volunteers Needed

Moscow, once known for its tree line streets and shady parks, has lost its shade, noise barriers from the highway and railroad and the peacefulness created by the hundreds of green trees.

Join us on September 14 and 15, 2012 to help us plant, water and mulch trees in the Village of

Moscow. There is heavy, medium and light work to be done; whatever your pace.

Fun, laughter and lunch are promised for all who want to join us on September 14 and 15.

Meet at the Community Center at 9:00 AM. Work shoes, hat

and gloves are a must. There is a prize for the most outlandish work hat!

To register, call Susan at 513-553-4200.



Six Month Progress Report

The tremendous outpouring from citizens, the private sector, non-profit agencies, and the faith-based community has brought great healing. The volunteer hours, financial contributions, and donated goods have helped to rebuild lives, homes and families.

Rebuilding lives: Many of the survivors that were displaced by the March 2, 2012 tornado have either resettled into a different home or are about to move back to their homes that have been rebuilt.

Rebuilding homes: The LTRC has partnered with Mr. Mattress, Furniture Fair, The Batavia Rotary, St. Vincent de Paul, Catholic



Two Men and a Truck offloading donated goods at the Disaster Donation Center.

Charities of South Western Ohio, and other faith-based organizations in our community to provide vouchers for families that were under or uninsured to replace mattresses, refrigerators, stoves, dish washers, and washers and dryers.

Household items such as linens, towels, cookware, cleaning supplies, baby needs, and water were provided by donations from the public and coordinated by the Donation Management Team that operated from the Red Barn Disaster Donation Center.

Rebuilding Families: The LTRC has assisted more than 56 individuals and families that have been impacted by the March 2 tornado, the Brown County flash flood, and the June 29 Wind-storm. Of the 56 cases, 40 cases have been closed. The LTRC will continue to operate until all of the cases are closed.



Ohio Valley

Long Term Recovery Committee

For Additional Information:

Ohio Valley LTRC
2238 State Route 756
Moscow, Ohio 45153

Phone: 513-528-0412
www.ema.clermontcountyohio.gov





By: Tammy Craig, Clermont Library

Talk like a Pirate Day!

Wednesday, September 19, 4 – 5:30 p.m. – Bethel Branch



Attendees ages 4 – 10 are invited for a pirate party! We will make our own pirate flags and hunt for library treasure while learning how to talk like pirates! Costumes are welcome, but leave your cutlass at home! For more information or to register call 734-2619.

Family Fun Night: Back to School

Monday, September 10, 6:30 p.m. – Goshen Branch
Bring the family for some back to school fun! There will be stories and games, not to mention fun crafts to take home, like an egg carton school bus, a laced pocket craft, and a one-of-a-kind nametag necklace. For more information or to register call 722-1221.

It's a Goetta Life

Tuesday, September 18, 6:30 p.m. – Milford-Miami Township Branch

As part of our month-long Oktoberfest celebration, David Glier of Glier's Goetta will present a program all about goetta! He will talk about the process of making goetta, its role in Cincinnati history, and more! There will be plenty of samples! For more information or to register, call 248-0700.

Ulysses S. Grant – Soldier and Statesman

Saturday, September 22, 1 p.m. – Owensville Branch

Meet local historian Gary Knepp, as he chats about US Grant, our 18th President. Learn how Grant spent his time in the area, and his involvement with Camp Denison. Mr. Knepp will bring some of his collectibles for viewing and discussion. For more information or to register, call 732-6084.



Blink, and They're on the Go!

Wednesday, September 12, 10:30 a.m. – Union Township Branch

Saturday, September 30, 10:30 a.m. – Union Township Branch

Your toddler is busy exploring the world, and full of personality! Join us for a presentation from 4C for Children about the changes toddlers go through, and to learn some parenting tips and ideas. Children can attend a toddler storytime while parents attend the presentation. For more information or to register, call 528-1744.



Welcome Cookbook Author Maggie Green

Monday, September 10, 6:30 p.m. – Amelia Branch
Cookbook author Maggie Green will discuss how to incorporate seasonal produce in cooking. She will also talk about writing cookbooks, and have a question and answer session. Her cookbook, The Kentucky Fresh Cookbook, will be available for purchase. For more information or to register, call 752-5580.

Craft Night: Pumpkin Decoupage

Tuesday, September 18, 6:30 p.m. – New Richmond Branch

Adults are invited to learn a new craft skill at the library by making a decoupage foam pumpkin that you can take home. Space is limited; for more information or to register, call 553-0570.



To register for Clermont Public Library programs online, go to www.clermontlibrary.org.



Clermont County Animal Shelter Critters

call 732-8854 for more information



2012 Clermont County Poster Pooch Maple from Loveland



Arden



Chipper



Star



Tucker



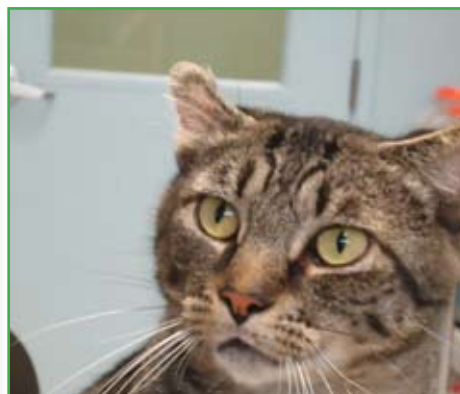
Cuddles



Turner



Polly



Crinkles



Dougie



732-8854

www.ClermontCountyOhio.gov



Clermont Health Inspection Reports Now Available Online

Have you ever wondered how the restaurant where you're eating did on their last health inspection? Are you buying a new home and wonder about the household sewage treatment system?

This information is now available to citizens online for restaurants and properties in Clermont County. The Clermont County General Health District Food Program staff has been working on making information easier for the public to get; they began entering inspections electronically in 2011, which can now be accessed online.

The Health District does unannounced inspections of restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores, and vending operations at least once a year. "Having the reports online will help the public see how the restaurants they visit are doing," said Robert Perry, Environmental Health Director. He encourages consumers to examine inspections over time to get a better representation of how a facility is doing. Food facilities can be searched by either name or address.

Household Sewage Treatment Systems located in Clermont County are all part of the Basic System Assessment (BSA) Program. Systems with electrical

components are currently assessed once every 19 months, and all other types of systems are assessed once every 38 months.



"Not only will having the inspection results available online provide valuable information to the public, it saves staff time processing requests for public information," said Robert Wildey, Director of Water and Waste. Information about BSA inspections is one of the most common public records requests the Health District receives. The Health District also offers a septic system inspection service for homeowners or potential home buyers so they can have a system inspected prior to purchasing a home. Both

regular BSA inspections and loan inspections are now available online; you simply need to know the address of the property you are looking for.

Food facility inspection reports and BSA inspection reports can both be found by visiting the Health District website

www.ClermontHealthDistrict.org.

The first Labor Day holiday was celebrated on Tuesday, September 5, 1882, in New York City, in accordance with plans of the Central Labor Union.

In 1884 the first Monday in September was selected as the holiday, as originally proposed, and the Central Labor Union urged similar organizations in other cities to follow the example of New York and celebrate a "workingmen's holiday" on that date. The idea spread with the growth of labor organizations, and in 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.

Today, we typically view Labor Day weekend in the United States as the last weekend of summer.

Clermont County Stands Together Against Falls

by Denise Franer, Senior Safety Program

Clermont County joins 44 other states and the Falls Free© Coalition in declaring a statewide ***Falls Prevention Awareness Day*** on the first day of fall, September 22, 2012. This year's theme, ***Standing Together to Prevent Falls***, seeks to unite professionals, older adults, caregivers, and family members to play a part in raising awareness and preventing falls in the older adult population.



Every 15 seconds, an older adult is seen in an emergency department for a fall-related injury. Nationally, falls are the leading cause of both fatal and nonfatal injuries for those aged 65 and over. Moreover, the chances of falling and being seriously injured in a fall increase with age.

Studies show that a combination of interventions can significantly reduce falls in the older adult population. Experts recommend a physical activity regimen with balance, strength training, and flexibility components; consulting with a health professional about getting a fall risk assessment; having medications reviewed periodically; getting eyes checked annually; and making sure the home environment is safe and supportive.

With 11.8 percent of Clermont County's population being age 65 and older, the Clermont County Senior Safety Program wants local seniors to know they have somewhere to go for help when it comes to avoiding accidental falls. The Clermont County General Health District created the Senior Safety

Program to help seniors reduce the risk of injury. The program offers free fall prevention educational materials, fall prevention activities, and free home safety checks to identify potential in-home safety hazards.

The Board of Clermont County Commissioners proclaimed September 16 – 22, 2012 as ***Accidental Fall Awareness Week*** in Clermont County. "Accidental falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths among people over the age of 65," said Clermont County Commission President Bob Proud. "It is also the leading cause of doctor visits, hospital admissions, and emergency room visits."

"For many older citizens, falling and even the fear of falling, can lead to depression, isolation, diminished mobility, and a loss of independence," said Senior Safety coordinator Denise Franer.



"The Senior Safety Program, along with the Senior Safety Coalition and other health-care partners are working to reduce the likelihood of falls and support older citizens in maintaining health, and remaining safe and secure in their homes and communities."

Anyone interested in learning more about the Clermont County Senior Safety Program can visit the website www.clermonthealthdistrict.org or call 735-8400.

Click here to see a recent Senior Safety Program e-newsletter:

http://www.clermonthealthdistrict.org/SeniorSafetyNewsletter8_2012.pdf

This newsletter is a service of the Board of Clermont County Commissioners.
For more information about the articles featured, contact Clermont County Public Information at (513) 732-7597 or e-mail rkimble@ClermontCountyOhio.gov.